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By M. MAC LEAN.

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AGRICULTURAL.

From the Southern Cabinet.

ON THE CULTIVATION OF THE FIG TREE IN CAROLINA.

I cheerfully comply with the request of the Fruit Committee of the Horticultural Society, in communicating such facts as I am acquinted with, in regard to the cultivation of the Fig tree.

I regard the fig as one of the most valuable among the fruits cultivated in the maritime districts of South Carolina. It is wholesome and delicious. The tree is of easy growth, does not take up much room, is seldom injured by frosts, bears from one to three crops in a season; and there are so many varieties that, with a little care, good fruit may be obtained from June till the frosts of November.

Species Cultivated.—There are, according to Botanists, considerably over a hundred species of Fig tree; the majority bear fruits which are not eatable. All our varieties cultivated in this country may be referred to one species—the *Ficus carica*. These varieties have all originated in Asia, Africa, and the southern parts of Europe, from seeds. The fig belongs to that family of plants arranged by Botanists, under the class and order, *Dioecia Triandria*. The male tree has not been introduced into this country—hence, the seeds of our cultivated varieties are all inactive, the trees being propagated by layers or cuttings; no new varieties have, therefore, originated in America. Nearly all our varieties of the fig, have been from time to time received from different parts of the Mediterranean. Those in Louisiana were generally imported from the south of France; hence, there are several varieties in the neighbourhood of New.Orleans, which have not found their way into Carolina. The small but delicious Celestial fig was, I think, received from Louisiana but a few years ago. Although it might be advisable as a matter of interesting horticultural experiment to import the original wild Fig tree, or the male of some of its varieties; yet there are so many valuable varieties cultivated on the Eastern continent, that a selection from these may easily be made, by which our tables may be supplied with a constant succession throughout the season.

Method of transporting Cuttings of the Fig tree.—This process is both simple and safe. The cuttings should be taken from the tree any time during autumn or winter, packed in earth or moss, in boxes or barrels, and will easily survive a passage across the Atlantic.

Mode of Propagation.—The cuttings will succeed best in this climate when planted in the month of February.—Those, however, that have been taken from the tree at an earlier period, will succeed very well when planted a month later. It may be successfully inoculated. As the tree, however, grows readily from cuttings, a resort to this method is only desirable when we have stalks of an inferior kind, the inoculations growing so rapidly, that there is usually a saving of a year by this method. The tree grows readily from shoots, but I have found, from many years experience, that cuttings succeed better and grow more rapidly. A limb is laid horizontally, covered by seven or eight inches of earth; a branch is suffered to project from the earth, forms the future tree, whilst the parts under the surface are formed into roots. It usually commences bearing the second year.

We have introduced into Carolina, as far as I have been able to observe about twelve or fourteen varieties of the fig.—These usually are named according to their colors— such as black, blue, brown, lemon, and white figs. One variety the large white lemon fig, produces an abundant early crop, whilst the large brown fig, when carefully attended to, continues ripening its fruit until late in autumn. The black and blue figs seldom bear an early, but usually a very abundant second crop.

To produce an Early Crop of Figs.—I have long been under an impression that one great cause, of our want of success in producing fruits of various kinds in Carolina is owing to our neglect in manuring fruit trees in the proper season. This is applicable especially to our apple, pear, quince, and plum trees. In the pear especially, the manuring of the trees with decayed leaves, or litter of any kind in in autumn, has almost invariably been succeeded by an abundant crop in the following year. In an experiment I made on a black, blue, white, and brown figs, I am inclined to think that by manuring them an early crop of figs may be obtained from all these varieties, although some kinds produce less aubndantly than others. In the month of November last I had the earth removed from my Fig trees, by which process many of the small roots and fibre were cut off. I placed a wheelborow load of well rotted stable munure around each tree, which was covered with earth. The trees had been planted in a moist soil, and were somewhat injure by the heavy rains of the present unusually wet season. This was in some measures remedied by adopting the European system of under-draining, which I found very advantageous. I have never had a more abundant early crop of figs, or of finer flavour. This I have ascribed a manuring. As it was a first experiment, I am unable to state positively whether this method would always succeed equally well.

Insects which infest the fig tree.—Hitherto this tree has been subject to few diseases, add scarcely suffered from the depredations of insects. The large white coccus, of scale-like, mealy appearance, did not materially injure the tree or the fruit; and the fig-eater comes late in the season to claim his share of our abundance, to which he seems fully entitled by the laws of Nature. A minute and much more formidable insect, however, whose character I have not yet fully investigated, has within the last few years attacked the limbs and leaves of our Fig trees, covering the surface, extracting the juices, and in some cases destroying the tree in a single year.—The only remedy I have thus far been able to discover, is by scouring the tree and all its branches with a hard brush dipped in moist sand, and finally washing it with soap-suds or strong alkali.

Respectfully,

JOHN BACHMAN.

July 16, 1840.

To the Fruit Committee of the Horticultural Society.

MAKING BUTTER.

[In reply to some enquiry relative to to this subject, the editor of the Boston Cultivator thus discourseth:]

If we undertake to tell our correspondent which is the best mode of making butter, we may have our ears boxed the very next time we venture into a dairy room—for we find that good butter makers have different methods: each has the very best mode of making, and why should any one listen to the experience of others? Still our own opinion is, there is but one best mode of making the very best butter, the proof of which is in the eating—we do not mean that it shall be proved as soon as it comes from the churn, but after it has been made a year.

All dairy women know that the milk dishes must be kept clean and sweet—that the milk must be good—and that it must not be allowed to stand unreasonably long before the cream is taken off with the skimmer—nor should the cream stand too long before churning. In large dairies it is a common practice to churn the gathered cream not less than three times in a week, but if the cream is kept in a cool place it may be allowed to stand half a week without injury at any season of the year, provided it is daily stirred in a thorough manner so as to mingle well together all parts of it.

When the cream is put into the churn it must be of proper temperature, or it will not make the best of butter—if it be too warm the butter will be soft and less in quantity than it should be—if it be too cold it is not easily converted to butter.—Dairy women are not much in the practice of using a thermemeter in these cases, though we think it would be an excellent practice, and "new beginners" may find one indispensable. Probably the heat indicated by Fahrenheit's thermometer may be between 60 deg. and 70 deg. without injury but the only way to determine this with complete accuracy is to make several trials. At the commencement of churning the cream should never be agitated, violently, for in such case it will be set to foaming and the formation of butter, will be retarded. Let it be gently agitated for some time, and there will be no risk in a thorough shake towards the close. When the cream is good and has been properly kept, it is often converted to butter in fifteen minutes; and yet we see people churning for hours on one mass of cream! There is no doubt but that the cream from some cows is much more easily converted than from others, but the principal reason for the difference in the length of time required is a lack of attention to the preparation of the cream so as to give it the proper warmth.

When the cream has become butter it is well to keep, up the agitation for five minutes, in order to gather the butter, or rather to separate it completely from the buttermilk. When this is done the buttermilk should be turned off and cold water should be substituted for it in the churn, then the water and the butter may be agitated again for several minutes—let this water be then turned off and a new supply be put in and agitated as before; in this way all the buttermilk may be separated from the butter, and if any liquid is left in the little crevices it will be principally water instead of buttermilk. The butter must then be taken from the churn by means of a littie wooden shovel, with which it should be overhauled, or "worked over," as the women say, and partially salted. On the next day it should be overhauled again to let out all the extra moisture or water, when it will be fit to be put into the firkin.

The salt used should not exceed one ounce for a pound of butter. And if all the buttermilk has been churned out or worked out, the butter will keep sweet for a year or two in case it is well packed.—It should be stowed close in the firkin so that no air can gain admittance. The firkin should be water tight and brine tight. Some turn brine over the top to exclude the air, and when the firkins are to remain in the dairy this is a good mode, but the air should always be excluded as much as possible.

The greatest difficulty which we find in preparing butter to be kept for a long while, is *in wholly separating the buttermilk* from the butter. If that is all worked out in season we are not in much danger of losing our butter or of having it turned frowsy—but people seldom separate all this buttermilk, and those who sell their butter fresh prefer to let a quantity of liquid remain with the butter in order to balance better on the scale. When we are not sure that we have separated all the liquid from the butter, we can, by using salt that has been perfectly dried by the fire or in the sun absorb a portion of the moisture remaining in it and thus run less risk of iniquity from such particles which are apt to adhere to the butter. When butter is to be kept for several months we choose to mix a little pulverized saltpetre and some loaf sugar with the salt. One teaspoonful of saltpetre and two of sugar will be enough for a dozen pounds—these articles also aid us in absorbing the extra moisture of the butter.

But all will not agree with us as to washing new made butter in cold water, and probably a majority of matter-all-decide at once that we ruin our butter by washing it—that we wash away much of the natural sweetness of the butter—they therefore attempt to work out that foul matter by hand, but they seldom succeed—and though their butter will taste as sweet as any when it is first made, *it will remain sweet.* We do not mean that it is impossible to work out all this matter by hand—we mean to say females seldom do it, and this is the principal cause of the great quantity of frowy butter that is found in our markets.

We could never perceive any philosophical reason why water should wash away any of the richness of butter. Nothing will make it unite with any oily or buttery matter—and we should as soon fear that water put in our tallow kettle would injure the candles as that it would wash away the goodness of the butter. If our theory be correct that water cannot be made to mingle with butter the burthen of proof that water will wash away the goodness lies on the other side. For our part we can say we have eat as good butter at a year old made and kept in the way which we recommend as we have ever found; and we are satisfied that ours is much the easiest mode of separating the butter from the buttermilk.

We cannot account for the strong prejudice which exists against suffering new made butter to come in contact with water, but we can assure our friends that the Scotch and the Dutch who have leng been noted for their excellent butter, never fail to cleanse out all the buttermilk by the application of cold water in the churn: and their butter has been kept for years without the least taint.—*Bos. Cultivator.*

AGE OF SHEEP.

The age of sheep may be known by examining their front teeth. They are eight in number and appear during the first year all of a small size. In the second year, the two middle ones fall out, and their place is supplied by two new teeth, which are easily distinguished by being of larger size. In the third year, two other small teeth, one on each side, drop out and are replaced by two large ones; so that there are now four large teeth in the middle, and two pointed ones on each side. In the fourth year, the large teeth are six in number, and only two small ones remain, one at each end of the range.—In the fifth year the remaining small teeth are lost, and the whole front teeth are large. In the sixth year the whole begin to be worn; and in the seventh, sometimes sooner some fall out or are broken.

DISEASES AND MANAGEMENT OF SHEEP.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—I have seen in your paper a request made by Mr. Grant, for some remedy to cure cattle that have taken too freely of new corn. Taking it for granted that the digestive organs, stomach, &c. of a sheep is like that of the ox, I will tell him what proved useful to my sheep under the same circumstances. My sheep had taken too freely of new corn, they became perfectly debilitated, violent purging ensued, and several of them died. One I found very low, it could not stand and appeared to be blind. Three doses of tar and salt a day, say half a table spoonful of tar, and a little salt, repeated for two or three days cured it.

In the management of sheep I find tar of great benefit. If placed in a situation that is easy of access, they will eat it very readily. I like to have the troughs well plastered with tar, and the salt thrown in, and they will use it freely at all seasons. I find that sheep in this section of the country require moist or green food in the winter, and the turnep crop is so precarious, that I was induced to try the winter radish, this I found to answer a very good purpose; they grow large, and they are not apt to be troubled by the flea or bug. The sheep I found would eat them as well, and appeared as healthy as when fed on turneps.

I observed a writer in your paper recommend littering sheep pens with straw, feeding on oats and hay. The littering with straw I found to be injurious. the urine and manure of the sheep soon fermenting, and produced a suffocating heat and offensive odor; this was the cause of disease. Feeding on oats and hay produced costiveness and fever, and in the month of February they begin to eat their wool. Hay is an enemy to wool; you always find the manufacturer complaining of it. I prefer feeding on cornstalks and corn fodder, (the corn cut up by the roots and the husk left on the stocks.) the stock keeps the sheep from the ground, and the pen will not be hot or offensive. A hundred hills of corn and a bushel and a half of turneps or radishes, I found sufficient for 125 head of sheep at a time. I feed morning and evening, letting them run out through the middle of the day on my wheat, so as to destroy the insects that would otherwise habor under its foliage and rise in the spring and destroy the grain, and to prevent the snow from suffocating it, as some of your correspondents complain. *Albany Cultiaator.*

A VIRGINIAN.

PATENT OFFICE, Nov. 20, 1840.

Notice is given that the Hall in the new *Patent Office*, for the exhibition of manufactures, is now completed. The Hall is spacious, being 273 feet long, 63 feet wide 30 feet high, and *fire proof.*

Agents whose names are annexed will receive and forward free of expense, articles which may be deposited with them. These articles will be clasified and arranged for exhibition, and the name and address of the manufacturer (with the prices when desired) will be carefully affixed. Few, it is presumed, will neglect to improve the opportunity now presented of contributing their choisest specimens to the *the Natinnal gallery of American manufactures*, where thousands who visit the Seat of Government will witness with pleasure the progres of arts in these United States.

If fairs in limited sections of our country, excited, interest, what must be the attraction of a national exhibition, enriched by daily additions.

The agriculturist may be gratified to learn, that commodious rooms are provided for the exhibition of agricultural implements, and also for the reception of seed for exhibition or distribution.

The Commissioner of Patents. being authorized to collect agricultural statistics avails himself of this opportunity to solicit information of the condition and charactor of the crops in several sections of the country. These data will aid him in presenting with his anual report, the aggregate amount of products of the soil, and and it is hoped that the public may guarded in some measure from the evils of monopoly, by showing how the scarcity in one propertion of the land may be supplied from the surplus in another.

Names of agents who will receive and forward packages for the Patent office.—Collectors of the customs at Portsmonth N. H., Portland, Me., Burlington, Vt. Providence, R. I., Philadelphia Baltimore, Richmond, Charleston, Savanah, N. Orleans, Detriot, Buffalo, Cleveland.—Surveyors of the Customs—Hartford, C St Louis, Pittsburg, Cincinnatti, Louisvill R. H. Eddy, Boston, Mass; David Gardiner, (Customs House) New York.

HENRY L ELLSWORTH,
Commissioner of patents.

From the Charleston Courier.

GOV. RICHARDSON'S INAUGURAL.

We cannot go this document. We are disappointed rather in Gov. Richardson than his inaugural, for we had an inkling of what it would be, from a certain developement which took place, in the columns of the *Mercury*, last summer. Our pleasure in seeing a Union man elected Governor of the State (and it would otherwise have been unfeigned, and in relation to no individual more so than Col. Richardson) is entirely marred, by the seeming sacrifice of principle, by which the event has been accomplished. If this is the way the bond of peace is to be sealed, that seal shall never bear our impress; and we must differ from his Excellency that it is cause of congratulation, and calculated "to dispel every shade of doubt and distrust from the hearts and countenances of our people," and on the contrary hold it just cause of sorrow and apprehension. When Gov. Richardson addressed the editor of the *Mercury*, last summer, in an exposition of his principles (for which that journal called him a sound State Rights man) and declared that if any attempt should be made after the the expiration of the Compromise Act, in 1841, to revive the tariff "South-Carolina ought not to submit to it," "nor when the remedy is to be applied, should we quarrel among ourselves as to the mode and measure of redress," but "the simplest, the most efficacious and direct remedy should be at once resorted to," and in such an emergency, he doubted not "that the State would concentrate in her defence the will and the energies of all her citizens," our suspicions and our fears were aroused. We knew, however, that these high sounding and ambiguous phrases, smacking strongly as they do of the *peaceful* remedy of Nullification, were susceptible of an innocent interpretation—we made allowances, liberal allowances too, for the fact the writer had on at the time *the white garment*, that he was seeking high and distinguised office, and had to contend against adverse machination—and we supended our judgment. But Col. Richardson is now the Governor of the State, he is no longer *candidatus* but *purpuratus*, and what he says officially it is our right and duty to canvass freely, in order to ascertain his object and meaning. Gov. Richardson tells us, in the same breath, that we have "discarded forever the cabalistic terms of party," and, with strange medley of those very terms, that "we are all Nullifiers, we are all Union men." Mr. Jefferson may, with some plausibility, have said, on his accession to the Presidency, "we are all republicans, we are all federalists," because in the sense that we are citizens of a *federal* government as well as of a *republic*, the terms are reconcileable.—But "Nullifiers" and "Union men" are actually antipodes; and there is no sense in which the terms can be made to harmonize. Gov. Richardson may find the paradox realized in himself; but we protest, not in the name of the Union party, for we regard that as long since dissolved, and trust in Heaven there will never be a necessity for its revival—but in the name of Union men, against any such unnatural amalgamation. Our family quarrel has been happily and honorably ended, without any abandonment or compromise of principle on either side, and the honest nullifier and the honest Union man may continue to cherish their principles, unless induced by honest conviction to change them, without loss of respect or diminution of brotherly affection. Mr. JEFERSON's declaration "we are all federalists, we are all republican," was followed by a contest between federalists and republicans; Heaven forefend that Gov. RICHARDSON's paradoxical parody may be ominous of like strife between Nullifiers and Union men.

Were this all that was objectionable in the inaugural, we concede it would have been captious and hypercritical to have noticed it. But there are other passages of startling ambiguity, if not plainly exceptionable doctrine, and indicating that kind of action which Nullifiers only, and not Union men, could on principle sanction. In alluding to the high province of executing the laws, now entrusted to him, he says:

"For the manner in which I hope to discharge this obligation, I shall look to the illustrious examples of my predecessors, and to *the great principles of the republican party of '98 and '99, and which this State, in all its controversies and struggles to preserve its constitutional rights, has so succesfully and pre-eminently maintained.* Those advantages which her stern and ardent patriotism may have been mainly instrumental in achieving in the salutary reformations in the administration of the Federal Government, so happily illustrated by the judicious measures and sound policy of those into whose hands it is now committed—my efforts shall be unremittingly directed to cherish and improve. *And whatever success may have crowned the unceasing vigilance and immovable firmness with which she asserted her rights, her principles and her sovereignty, no act of negligence or of commission on my part shall ever tarnish or abate.*"

The mere reference to the humbug resolutions of '98 and '99, which Mr. Jefferson used as a ladder to climb into power and then kicked away, as soon as he accomplished his object, we would regard as nothing more than the ordinary political *rule*, for Mr. Clay, Gen. Harrison, and Mr. Van Buren, as well as Mr. Calhoun, the Nullifier, refer to them as the common standard of their conflicting creeds; but this passage also asserts that this state "in all its controversies and struggles to preserve its constitutional rights, has *successfully and pre-eminently maintained*" the great principles of '98 and '99. Now we are not aware of any occasion in which this state, in any struggle to maintain her rights, pre-eminently assertad the great principles of '98 and '99, unless it be her nullification controversy with the general government; and when all the controversies and struggles of the state are included, the nullification struggle is of course embraced. Again we are told of the "immovable firmness" of the state in asserting her rights, her principles and her sovereignty," and this is another awful squinting at nullification.

The following passage, alluding to the election of Gen. HARRISON, besides libelling (we think the term by no means too strong) the South, by calling that event, to which the South has so largely contributed, (all the Southern States except three having voted for Gen. H.) "a triumph at the expense of Southern rights and interests," contains several strong nullification infusions.

But if in the results of the late Presidential canvass, these great principles so ardently cherished by the South, so faithfully and so ably maintained by the present administration, are destined to be overthrown, if a change of men necessarily implies a change of measures, if the now inevitable succession of another political dynasty seemingly allied to the implacable enemies of our domestic institutions, *combining every element of opposition to our principles, rising upon their downfall and winning trophies and triumphs at the expense of Southern rights and institutions*—if, in short, the political aspects of events may be regarded as betokening the recurrence of all those disastrous evils and abuses which have so long waged a desolating warfare of oppression, exaction and injustice, upon the rights and interests of the People of this State—*then let us remember that the great redeeming and conservative principle of redress and defence, remains and abides in ourselves; in the exercise and interposition of all those means and resources, so amply provided in the constitution, and so expressly reserved to the States.* Nor shall I be wanting in my duty on such an occasion to invoke the aid, and counsel of the Legislative Department of the Government. In such an event I cannot anticipate that there would be one citizen in our State of whatever shade or distinction of party, whose heart would be unmoved, or whose arm would be unnerved to defend—and from those perhaps now most confident in the purity and professions of a succeeding administration, one may reasonably expect, the manifestation of a zeal and ardour in repelling aggressions it may profess in proportion to the extent to which their patriotic anticipations are disappointed and deceived.

If, therefore, our rights should ever again cease to be respected, we are, I trust, as willing, as we are competent, to redress them, and while the experience of the past incalculates a lesson of warning and rebuke *to the ambitious encroachments of Federal power*, it at the same time exemplifies the dangerous tendency which exists to perpetrate [them,] and illustrates *the readiness with which they may be repelled by the evoked resources of the constiiution, and sovereignty of the States.*

So far as depends on me, fellow citizens, let me assure you, that I trust to enjoy the proud and happy consolation of transmitting as much of the right, honor, interests, or dignity of the State as are committed to the care of this department, uncompromitted and unimpaired, *by the aggressions of any power on earth.*

What means Gov. RICHARDSON by "the great redeeming and conservative principle of redress and defence," by "the interposition of means and resources *reserved to the States*," and by the evoked resources of the sovereignty of the State, "to repel the encroachments of Federal power?" These phrases are mere sound and fury signifying nothing, or they mean downright and rank nullification. We can scarcely suppose that Gov. R. would stop to palter in a double sense—that he would deform his first official document with an *equivoque* as hateful that of the test oath—and we thefore cannot avoid the inference that he means it to be understood, that, if another protective tariff shall be passed, he will be ready to play the Don Quixotte of nullification, and, with a rueful countenance, carry into effect the next fulminating ordinance of state sovereignty, taking care most paradoxically, as a nullifier, "to defend the rights of the State" against "aggression" "and encroachment from the federal government," by means of "a well organized militia," and yet, *as a Union man*, to save from "destruction this blood cemented Union."

In the following passage, indicating the uses of "a well organized militia," will be found a further development of our Governor's views.

"But when combined with these considerations of expediency are added the strong reasons of necessity incident to a situation of danger to our State and Domestic Institutions—*of rivalry and ambition from our sister States, and of aggression and encroachment from the Federal Government—the inducements on our part to a well organized militia are irresistible and conclusive.*"

The State will readily follow our Governor's gallant lead, as one man, to do battle in defence of "our domestic institutions" but if he calls us out, on grounds not justifying a resort to revolution, against the Federal Government, he would have much thinner muster, and be pretty sure to discover that "we are not *all* nullifiers," and that a goodly host of Unionmen will not have the less repugnance for